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#### WAVELENGTH STRATEGY

# Betrayed [negative default] | :15

Visual	Audio	Backup
News footage of D'Esposito (:58) Super: Anthony D'Esposito   Betrayed New York Stock of senior with doctor Super: Voted to cut health care for veterans [H.R. 2811, Vote #199, 4/26/23 ]	Anthony D'Esposito betrayed us. Voting to make it harder for veterans to get health care they need,	April 2023: Anthony D'Esposito voted to wildly slash federal spending, including draconian "spending caps" on "discretionary spending," the "second largest" category of which is "Veterans' health care." While Republicans claimed no cuts to veterans' health care were "intended," the bill D'Esposito voted for included cuts to veterans' health care as part of the massive "discretionary spending" cuts. In April 2023, D'Esposito voted for: "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for

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Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all "major" federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change." The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, Vote #199, <u>4/26/23</u> ; CQ, <u>4/26/23</u> ]
"Their bill, which would raise the country's borrowing limit for a year in exchange for a decade of spending reductions, does not include many specifics. It achieves most of its savings with spending caps for discretionary spending — the part of the budget allocated annually by Congress that is not automatic like Social Security payments — but it doesn't say what discretionary programs should be cut and which ones should be spared [] The White House has been attacking Republicans for proposing cuts to veterans' care. Republicans in House leadership have responded that no cuts are intended. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy has promised he will protect

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		the military from reductions, though the bill as written does not exclude them [] The charts above show how exempting big categories of spending would make the budget caps more draconian. Universal discretionary caps would cut spending by an average of 18 percent over a decade, compared with what's expected if current levels grew according to inflation. But with defense, veterans' care and homeland security exempted, the caps would result in cutting the rest of the discretionary budget by more than half. Defense is the largest category of discretionary spending in the budget. Veterans' health care is the second largest." [New York Times, <u>5/8/23</u> ]
		"The legislation Congressional Republicans introduced sets overall appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024 at the same level as FY 2022. At this level, all appropriated funding—including both defense and domestic programs—would be cut deeply. However, Congressional Republicans have indicated that they are not willing to cut defense funding at all, which means that everything else in annual appropriations—from cancer research, to education, to veterans' health care—would be cut by much more. The math is simple, but unforgiving. At their proposed topline funding level—and with defense funding left untouched as Republicans have proposed—everything else is forced to suffer enormous cuts. In fact, their bill would force a cut of 22 percent—cuts that would grow deeper and deeper with each year of their plan." [The White House, 4/20/23]
Stock of doctor explaining <u>prescriptions</u>	To cut access to Social	September 2023: Anthony D'Esposito voted for a bill that cut "29.9 percent […] for most" federal programs and agencies, including the Social

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Super: Voted to cut access to Social Security and	Security and Medicare,	Security Administration, which could have been forced to close 240 social security field offices or shorten their hours due to the GOP budget cuts.
Medicare [H.R. 5525, Vote #511, 9/29/23]		Anthony D'Esposito voted for "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs. It would fund veterans' programs, the Department of Homeland Security, national security programs and disaster assistance at full fiscal 2023 levels. It would also implement nearly all provisions of House Republicans' border security and immigration bill (HR 2), which the House passed in May 2023. It would provide an increase in funding for the Defense Department at rates set forth in House Republicans' fiscal 2024 defense appropriations bill (HR 4365), which would provide for a 3.6 percent funding increase over fiscal 2023. It would also provide funding increases for the Agriculture Department and provide an additional \$220 million above fiscal 2023 levels for Energy Department nuclear programs. Among its border security and immigration provisions, it would require DHS, within seven days of enactment, to resume all activities related to "border wall" construction on the U.S Mexico border that were underway or planned prior to Jan. 20, 2021; require DHS to reopen or restore, no later than Sept. 30, 2023, the use of all Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention facilities that were in operation on Jan. 20, 2021; and require DHS to return all unaccompanied children to their country of origin, regardless of whether they are from a contiguous country to the U.S. In addition to provisions of HR 2, it would place limitations on the use of DHS funding provided by the bill, including prohibitions on removing existing U.SMexico border barriers, transporting inadmissible adults into the U.S., and the use of Customs and Border Protection's "CBP One" app to facilitate the parole of an individual into the U.S. It also would prohibit the use of funds provided by the bill to initiate or resume any project or activity not funded during fiscal 2023 and would establish a congressional fiscal commis

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		situation." The bill was rejected by a vote of 198-232. [H.R. 5525, Vote #511, <u>9/29/23;</u> CQ, <u>9/29/23]</u>
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		"With one day before the end of the fiscal year, instead of following the bipartisan lead of the Senate to keep the government open, 90% of House Republicans just voted for a partisan bill to eviscerate programs millions of hardworking families count on—with a devastating 30% cut to law enforcement, Meals on Wheels, Head Start, and more. They are breaking their word, abandoning the bipartisan deal that two-thirds of them voted for just four months ago, and marching our country toward an Extreme Republican Shutdown that will damage our economy, our communities, and national security. Here's what it would mean for the American people if extreme House Republicans' 30% cuts were extended for the entire year. IMPACTS OF EXTREME REPUBLICANS' 30% CUTS: [] 240 Social Security field offices could be forced to close or shorten the hours they are open to the public." [White House, Press Release, 9/29/23]
		Anthony D'Esposito voted for the 2023 House Republican funding bill, which would gut funding for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, leading to "even further reductions in surveys

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and also cause at least 40% longer wait times for approximately 24 million beneficiaries that reach out to the Medicare call center annually" and leave CMS "unable" to "complete 38% of the required health and safety recertification surveys of nursing homes and home health agencies, leaving thousands of seniors at greater risk of dangerous and unsanitary conditions."
In April 2023, D'Esposito voted for: "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033." The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, Vote #199, <u>4/26/23</u> ; CQ, <u>4/26/23</u> ]
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"Thank you for your letter regarding the House Republican Leadership's reported plan to cap fiscal

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<ul> <li>year 2024 discretionary spending at the fiscal year 2022 enacted level. We appreciate the questions raised in your letter and agree that the American people and Members of Congress deserve to know the true impacts of this policy. President Biden's FY24 Budget lays out a detailed plan to invest in America, continues to lower costs for families, protects and strengthens Social Security and Medicare, and reduces the deficit. Meanwhile, Congressional Republicans have proposed unprecedented cuts in FY 2024 funding for key services, programs, and protections such as education, public safety, research, nutrition and more. Cuts on this scale would have very real and damaging impacts on our families, our communities, our economy, and our competitiveness—undermining a broad range of critical services the American people rely on in their everyday lives. As the FY 2024 propriations process gets underway, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has assessed the potential impacts of this policy on the programs and services provided by HHS. A few of these impacts are detailed below [] If funding for CMS is returned to FY 2022 Enacted levels, CMS would be unable to complete 38% of the required health and safety recertification surveys of nursing homes and home health agencies, leaving thousands of seniors at greater risk of dangerous and unsanitary conditions. A 22% reduction in CMS discretionary funding would lead to even further reductions in surveys and also cause at least 40% longer wait times for approximately 24 million beneficiaries that reach out to the Medicare call center annually." (HHS Letter to Rosa DeLauro, 03/17/23)</li> <li>D'Esposito Tweeted His Opposition To The Inflation Reduction Act, "Set To Lower The Cost Of Prescription Drugs," Allowed Seniors Greater Access To Medicare Services By Capping</li> </ul>		
Cost Of Prescription Drugs," Allowed Seniors		2022 enacted level. We appreciate the questions raised in your letter and agree that the American people and Members of Congress deserve to know the true impacts of this policy. President Biden's FY24 Budget lays out a detailed plan to invest in America, continues to lower costs for families, protects and strengthens Social Security and Medicare, and reduces the deficit. Meanwhile, Congressional Republicans have proposed unprecedented cuts in FY 2024 funding for key services, programs, and protections such as education, public safety, research, nutrition and more. Cuts on this scale would have very real and damaging impacts on our families, our communities, our economy, and our competitiveness—undermining a broad range of critical services the American people rely on in their everyday lives. As the FY 2024 appropriations process gets underway, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has assessed the potential impacts of this policy on the programs and services provided by HHS. A few of these impacts are detailed below [] If funding for CMS is returned to FY 2022 Enacted levels, CMS would be unable to complete 38% of the required health and safety recertification surveys of nursing homes and home health agencies, leaving thousands of seniors at greater risk of dangerous and unsanitary conditions. A 22% reduction in CMS discretionary funding would lead to even further reductions in surveys and also cause at least 40% longer wait times for approximately 24 million beneficiaries that reach out to the Medicare call center annually." (HHS Letter to Rosa DeLauro, 03/17/23) D'Esposito Tweeted His Opposition To The Inflation Reduction Act, Saying It Would Raise <b>\$16.7 Billion In Taxes "In 2023 On Americans Earning Less Than \$200,000 A Year."</b>
		Cost Of Prescription Drugs," Allowed Seniors

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Out-Of-Pocket Costs At \$2,000 For Seniors Under
Medicare Part D.
"The Inflation Reduction Act, signed into law by President Joe Biden, is set to lower the cost of prescription drugs — including cancer medications, blood thinners and insulin — for millions of Americans, experts say. Exorbitant drug prices in the United States are a key reason many people in the U.S. are forced to skip or delay filling their needed prescriptions. A Kaiser Family Foundation poll published last month found that nearly 1 in 2 adults report difficulty affording their health care expenses, including their prescribed medications." [NBC, <u>8/16/22</u> ]
"Medicare is poised to renegotiate the prices of some of its most expensive drugs through a historic expansion of its power, which could reduce costs for many seniors as well as federal spending on its prescription drug plan. The changes are tucked inside a massive spending-and-tax bill in Congress that includes \$433 billion in investments in health-care and clean energy. House Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act on Friday in a 220 to 207 vote along party lines, ending a tortured legislative process that took more than a year. The bill empowers the Health and Human Services Secretary to negotiate prices for certain drugs covered under two different parts of Medicare and punish pharmaceutical companies that don't play by the rules. The legislation also caps out-of-pocket costs at \$2,000 starting in 2025 for people who participate in Medicare Part D, the prescription drug plan for seniors." [CNBC, <u>8/12/22</u> ]
AARP CEO Jo Ann Jenkins On The Inflation Reduction Act: Millions Of Older Adults Are Now "One Step Closer To Real Relief From Out-Of-Control Prescription Drug Prices."
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The IRA Allowed Medicare To Negotiate Drug Prices, Reducing Drug Costs For Seniors And Federal Spending.
<ul> <li>"Medicare is poised to renegotiate the prices of some of its most expensive drugs through a historic expansion of its power, which could reduce costs for many seniors as well as federal spending on its prescription drug plan. The changes are tucked inside a massive spending-and-tax bill in Congress that includes \$433 billion in investments in health-care and clean energy. House Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act on Friday in a 220 to 207 vote along party lines, ending a tortured legislative process that took more than a year. The bill empowers the Health and Human Services Secretary to negotiate prices for certain drugs covered under two different parts of Medicare and punish pharmaceutical companies that don't play by the rules. The legislation also caps out-of-pocket costs at \$2,000 starting in 2025 for people who participate in Medicare Part D, the prescription drug plan for seniors." [CNBC, 8/12/22]</li> <li>The IRA Required Drug Companies That Raised Prices More Than The Rate Of Inflation To Rebate</li> </ul>
Medicare The Amount Over The Inflation Rate.

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	"President Joe Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 on Aug. 16. This historic legislation will help millions of Medicare enrollees better afford their life-sustaining medications, and millions more Americans will be able to pay their Affordable Care Act premiums. [] Here are the main elements of the health care portions of the new law. [] Beginning in October, if the price of a Part D prescription drug is raised by more than the rate of general inflation, the drugmaker will have to rebate to Medicare the amount of the increase above the inflation rate. Rebates for higher-than-inflation price hikes for medications covered under Medicare Part B (usually office-based infusions, such as for cancer drugs) will begin in January 2023." [AARP, 8/16/22]
	IRA Capped Copays For Insulin At \$35 For Medicare Patients.
	"A new legislative package signed into law by President Joe Biden on Tuesday is a big win for Medicare patients who struggle to cover the cost of insulin to manage their diabetes. But the bill, called the Inflation Reduction Act, falls short of applying those cost controls to the broader patient population who rely on insulin. The bill limits insulin copays to \$35 per month for Medicare Part D beneficiaries starting in 2023. Notably, seniors covered by Medicare also have a \$2,000 annual out-of- pocket cap on Part D prescription drugs starting in 2025. Medicare will also now have the ability to negotiate the costs of certain prescription drugs." [CNBC, 8/16/22]

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Stock of police officer Super: Opposed Iowering energy bills [Clty & State,	And opposed lowering energy bills. He's lost our trust.	Anthony D'Esposito opposed the Inflation Reduction Act, a \$369 billion law which "would lead to significant cuts in energy costs for American households," including saving "the average household \$1,800 per year on energy bills."
09/20/23] News footage of D'Esposito (1:01) Super: Anthony D'Esposito has lost our trust		"D'Esposito has not taken any direct votes since taking office this year related to drug costs, but said on the campaign trail last year that he opposed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which allowed Medicare to directly negotiate drug prices with pharmaceutical companies to lower prices both for recipients and across the board. On his campaign website, D'Esposito said that he would 'ensure that federal health care policy lowers the cost of prescription medications,' although he has received criticism from Democrats for his silence over a lawsuit challenging the Medicare negotiation provision of the Inflation Reduction Act." ( <i>Clty &amp; State</i> , <u>09/20/23</u> )
[Paid for by LCV Victory Fund, www.lcvvictoryfund.org , and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.]		D'Esposito Tweeted His Opposition To The Inflation Reduction Act, Saying It Would Raise \$16.7 Billion In Taxes "In 2023 On Americans Earning Less Than \$200,000 A Year." [Anthony D'Esposito Twitter, <u>8/1/22</u> ]
		"Colorado Democrats wanted to mark the one-year anniversary of the federal Inflation Reduction Act's passage and the boon it's been for investment in green energy so they came to Brighton, site of two major green energy projects announced this year. 'Colorado had a big hand not only in passing this bill but in shaping it and writing it,' U.S. Senator Michael Bennet said the press conference, flanked by Colorado Gov. Jared Polis and Colorado's two first-year Congresswomen, District 8 Representative Yadira Caraveo and District 7 Representative Brittany Pettersen. 'Because we passed that bill one year ago, the United States is better positioned than any country in the world to lead a global transition to on energy. And Colorado is better poised than any other state in America to lead that transition.' Brighton has seen two major green energy manufacturers announce plans to build. In March, Fremont,

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	Califbased lithium-ion battery manufacturer Amprius announced plans to open a factory in the city's vacant Sears/KMart distribution center on Bromley Lane. The 775,000-square-foot building would be home to 332 net new jobs in Brighton with an average annual wage of \$68,516 [] Caraveo said she lobbied to have the press conference in Brighton, smack in the middle of her congressional district. 'We wanted to highlight a spot where the bipartisan infrastructure money had gone,' Caraveo said. 'With the northern metro area growing so much, investments in this area of the state are particularly important.' The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, initially called the Build Back Better Act, was passed by congress and signed by President Biden on Aug. 16, 2022. The bill was passed solely by Democrats, with no Republicans in either the house or the senate supporting it [] Caraveo said it's having a visible impact on the state. 'After years of federal disinvestment and neglect, many of our community are already seeing investments that are starting to vest with new projects that will grow our local economy, create jobs and improve life for Colorado,' Caraveo said. 'There really is no better model so far of the early benefits of these bills than Brighton, which in many ways is the nexus of our future here in northern Colorado. As an early recipient of many of these project funds, Brighton is poised to lead Colorado in clean energy manufacturing and will stand as an example of how this needed investment in our communities benefits families and the future of our local economy.'" ( <i>Brighton Standard Blade</i> , <u>08/02/23</u> ) "Sweeping climate and health care legislation unveiled by Democrats last week would lead to significant cuts in energy costs for American households, according to a new analysis. A report by non-profit group Rewiring America found that the tax incentives included as part of the \$369 billion dedicated to climate initiatives in the Inflation Reduction Act would save the average household \$1,800 per year on ene

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children to their country of origin, regardless of

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VisualAudioStock of doctor explaining prescriptionsAnthony D'Esposito voted to cut access to Social Security and Medicare [H.R. 5525, Vote #511, 9/29/23]Anthony D'Esposito voted to cut Medicare	September 2023: Anthony D'Esposito voted for a bill that cut "29.9 percent [] for most" federal programs and agencies, including the Social Security Administration, which could have been forced to close 240 social security field offices or shorten their hours due to the GOP budget cuts. Anthony D'Esposito voted for "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would provide funding for federal government operations and services through Oct. 31, 2023, with a 29.9 percent cut from fiscal 2023 levels for most programs. It would fund veterans' programs,	
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The Inflation Reduction Act, "Set To Lower The Cost Of Prescription Drugs," Allowed Seniors Greater Access To Medicare Services By Capping Out-Of-Pocket Costs At \$2,000 For Seniors Under Medicare Part D.
"The Inflation Reduction Act, signed into law by President Joe Biden, is set to lower the cost of prescription drugs — including cancer medications, blood thinners and insulin — for millions of Americans, experts say. Exorbitant drug prices in the United States are a key reason many people in the U.S. are forced to skip or delay filling their needed prescriptions. A Kaiser Family Foundation poll published last month found that nearly 1 in 2 adults report

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difficulty affording their health care expenses, including their prescribed medications." [NBC, 8/16/22]
"Medicare is poised to renegotiate the prices of some of its most expensive drugs through a historic expansion of its power, which could reduce costs for many seniors as well as federal spending on its prescription drug plan. The changes are tucked inside a massive spending-and-tax bill in Congress that includes \$433 billion in investments in health-care and clean energy. House Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act on Friday in a 220 to 207 vote along party lines, ending a tortured legislative process that took more than a year. The bill empowers the Health and Human Services Secretary to negotiate prices for certain drugs covered under two different parts of Medicare and punish pharmaceutical companies that don't play by the rules. The legislation also caps out-of-pocket costs at \$2,000 starting in 2025 for people who participate in Medicare Part D, the prescription drug plan for seniors." [CNBC, <u>8/12/22</u> ]
AARP CEO Jo Ann Jenkins On The Inflation Reduction Act: Millions Of Older Adults Are Now "One Step Closer To Real Relief From Out-Of-Control Prescription Drug Prices."
"Medicare is poised to renegotiate the prices of some of its most expensive drugs through a historic expansion of its power, which could reduce costs for many seniors as well as federal spending on its prescription drug plan. The changes are tucked inside a massive spending-and-tax bill in Congress that includes \$433 billion in investments in health- care and clean energy. House Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act on Friday in a 220 to 207 vote along party lines, ending a tortured legislative process that took more than a year. [] The American Association of Retired

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Persons, which represents 38 million people, described the legislation as a historic victory for older adults. AARP CEO Jo Ann Jenkins said the group has fought for nearly two decades to allow Medicare to negotiate drug prices. Millions of older adults are now "one step closer to real relief from out-of-control prescription drug prices," Jenkins said earlier this week." [CNBC, <u>8/12/22</u> ]
The IRA Allowed Medicare To Negotiate Drug Prices, Reducing Drug Costs For Seniors And Federal Spending.
"Medicare is poised to renegotiate the prices of some of its most expensive drugs through a historic expansion of its power, which could reduce costs for many seniors as well as federal spending on its prescription drug plan. The changes are tucked inside a massive spending-and-tax bill in Congress that includes \$433 billion in investments in health-care and clean energy. House Democrats passed the Inflation Reduction Act on Friday in a 220 to 207 vote along party lines, ending a tortured legislative process that took more than a year. The bill empowers the Health and Human Services Secretary to negotiate prices for certain drugs covered under two different parts of Medicare and punish pharmaceutical companies that don't play by the rules. The legislation also caps out-of-pocket costs at \$2,000 starting in 2025 for people who participate in Medicare Part D, the prescription drug plan for seniors." [CNBC, 8/12/22]
The IRA Required Drug Companies That Raised Prices More Than The Rate Of Inflation To Rebate Medicare The Amount Over The Inflation Rate.
"President Joe Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 on Aug. 16. This historic legislation will help millions of

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	Medicare enrollees better afford their life-sustaining medications, and millions more Americans will be able to pay their Affordable Care Act premiums. [] Here are the main elements of the health care portions of the new law. [] Beginning in October, if the price of a Part D prescription drug is raised by more than the rate of general inflation, the drugmaker will have to rebate to Medicare the amount of the increase above the inflation rate. Rebates for higher-than-inflation price hikes for medications covered under Medicare Part B (usually office-based infusions, such as for cancer drugs) will begin in January 2023." [AARP, 8/16/22]
	IRA Capped Copays For Insulin At \$35 For Medicare Patients.
	"A new legislative package signed into law by President Joe Biden on Tuesday is a big win for Medicare patients who struggle to cover the cost of insulin to manage their diabetes. But the bill, called the Inflation Reduction Act, falls short of applying those cost controls to the broader patient population who rely on insulin. The bill limits insulin copays to \$35 per month for Medicare Part D beneficiaries starting in 2023. Notably, seniors covered by Medicare also have a \$2,000 annual out-of- pocket cap on Part D prescription drugs starting in 2025. Medicare will also now have the ability to negotiate the costs of certain prescription drugs." [CNBC, 8/16/22]

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Stock of senior with <u>doctor</u> Super: Voted to cut health care for veterans [H.R. 2811, Vote #199, 4/26/23 ] [Paid for by LCV Victory Fund, www.lcvvictoryfund.org, and not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.]	And against health care for veterans	April 2023: Anthony D'Esposito voted to wildly slash federal spending, including draconian "spending caps" on "discretionary spending," the "second largest" category of which is "Veterans' health care." While Republicans claimed no cuts to veterans' health care were "intended," the bill D'Esposito voted for included cuts to veterans' health care as part of the massive "discretionary spending" cuts.
		In April 2023, D'Esposito voted for: "Passage of the bill, as amended, that would suspend the statutory limit on federal debt through March 31, 2024, or until an additional \$1.5 trillion has been borrowed — whichever occurs first. It would also include a range of provisions to limit federal spending, as well as the text of a previously passed energy and permitting policy package. The bill would set base discretionary spending limits through fiscal 2033, capping spending for fiscal 2024 at the fiscal 2022 level of \$1.47 trillion — a reduction from current spending levels — and raising the cap by 1 percent annually through fiscal 2033. It would also include similar annual cap adjustments for specified programs, including for wildfire suppression, disability reviews and redeterminations, health care fraud and abuse control, and disaster reemployment services and eligibility assessments. The bill would rescind unobligated amounts from various funds provided by the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package (PL 117-169) for COVID-19 relief, IRS enforcement, and certain climate- and infrastructure-focused initiatives, as well as all unobligated funding from the March 2021 coronavirus relief reconciliation package (PL 117-2) and earlier coronavirus response laws. The bill would expand or establish work requirements for Medicaid beneficiaries aged 19 to 55 and raise from 49 to 55 the oldest age at which existing work requirements would apply for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance

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	Program beneficiaries. It would also modify various work standards for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, including to update the baseline for calculating certain state workforce participation standards and require states to collect certain data related to work outcomes for TANF participants. To limit regulatory spending, the bill would nullify pending executive actions suspending student loan payments and prohibit the Education Department from implementing any substantially similar actions without congressional approval. It would also establish a process to require congressional approval of all "major" federal rules that would have an annual impact of at least \$100 million, cause a major increase in prices, or cause significant adverse effects to economic competitiveness. Among energy- and climate-focused provisions, the bill would repeal, phase out or narrow a variety of climate-focused tax credits under the fiscal 2022 reconciliation package, including repealing new credits for solar and wind projects, sustainable aviation fuel and clean fuel production. It would also include the full text of the House-passed energy and permitting package (HR 1) that would require a number of actions to boost the domestic production of fossil fuels and certain critical minerals and accelerate the construction of natural gas pipelines and other energy infrastructure, while reversing or repealing certain presidential actions taken and laws enacted during the Biden administration related to energy policy and climate change." The bill passed by a vote of 217-215. [H.R. 2811, Vote #199, 4/26/23; CQ, 4/26/23]
	"Their bill, which would raise the country's borrowing limit for a year in exchange for a decade of spending reductions, does not include many specifics. It achieves most of its savings with spending caps for discretionary spending — the part of the budget allocated

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annually by Congress that is not automatic like Social Security payments — but it doesn't say what discretionary programs should be cut and which ones should be spared [] The White House has been attacking Republicans for proposing cuts to veterans' care. Republicans in House leadership have responded that no cuts are intended. House Speaker Kevin McCarthy has promised he will protect the military from reductions, though the bill as written does not exclude them [] The charts above show how exempting big categories of spending would make the budget caps more draconian. Universal discretionary caps would cut spending by an average of 18 percent over a decade, compared with what's expected if current levels grew according to inflation. But with defense, veterans' care and homeland security exempted, the caps would result in cutting the rest of the discretionary budget by more than half. Defense is the largest category of discretionary spending in the budget. Veterans' health care is the second largest." [New York Times, <u>5/8/23</u> ]
"The legislation Congressional Republicans introduced sets overall appropriations for Fiscal Year 2024 at the same level as FY 2022. At this level, all appropriated funding—including both defense and domestic programs—would be cut deeply. However, Congressional Republicans have indicated that they are not willing to cut defense funding at all, which means that everything else in annual appropriations—from cancer research, to education, to veterans' health care—would be cut by much more. The math is simple, but unforgiving. At their proposed topline funding level—and with defense funding left untouched as Republicans have proposed—everything else is forced to suffer enormous cuts. In fact, their bill would force a cut of 22 percent—cuts that would grow deeper and deeper with each year of their plan." [The White House, 4/20/23]